

Washington -- Congresswoman Linda Sánchez announced today that she has secured final approval for \$5.1 million in federal funding for projects across her Southern California district. The House Appropriations Committee included these investments in the defense funding bill approved in November and the federal omnibus funding bill which was passed by Congress on Wednesday and is expected to be signed by the president soon.

"I'm very pleased to bring home these federal investments in our children, environment and local infrastructure," Rep. Sánchez said. "They will help build stronger, more vibrant communities, and improve our quality of life."

Infrastructure investments include:

\$2,400,000 for the Agile Port and High Speed Technology Project at California State University, Long Beach. These funds, secured in the defense funding bill, provide for innovative research into logistical technologies designed to efficiently move cargo in and out of our local ports and reduce air pollution during cargo transport. The combined port of Los Angeles and Long Beach is the largest port complex in the United States. Research into cargo management will improve both the local and national economies as well as the air quality in our region.

\$588,000 for the City of Artesia to purchase new "clean air" buses and create a shuttle bus system along Pioneer Boulevard and other local streets. These funds will improve air quality and boost the local economy by providing a convenient and affordable way to get around Artesia's commercial districts.

"This shuttle bus system is going to give a big boost to our local businesses and be very helpful to local residents," said John Martins, Mayor of Artesia. "This is a great investment in our city."

\$492,000 for the Los Angeles County Water Supply Augmentation Study. This investment will fund the construction of a neighborhood demonstration project to show how small changes in local construction can yield significant environmental benefits. Rep. Sánchez had previously brought home \$1.05 million for this study, which will improve the supply of drinking water and prevent ocean pollution in Southern California.

\$148,000 for the City of La Mirada and the Army Corps of Engineers to improve the city's aging flood control system. These funds will help reduce the street flooding that is common during the rainy season in La Mirada's Foster Park neighborhood.

"This project is going to help our city protect against future localized flooding while also protecting our environment. It's a win-win solution for La Mirada," said Andrea Travis, City Manager for La Mirada.

\$147,000 for the City of Lynwood to build public parks. These funds will allow the city of Lynwood to convert vacant lots into small "pocket" parks, improving the environmental and visual quality of the city, providing children with safe places to play, and addressing Lynwood's current need for more open public space.

Investments in our children include:

\$376,000 for the City of South Gate for its School Resource Officers program. These funds will pay for police officers specially trained to work with students on high school campuses in South Gate. This program is popular with students, faculty, and parents and has proven to be successful in reducing youth and gang violence on and around school campuses.

\$238,755 for the City of Whittier to support its after-school Library and Learning Center. These funds will improve staff and facility resources for the Center, which provides homework assistance to students in grades K-12.

\$191,593 to the ABC Unified School District to support an after-school program. These funds will help students get the assistance they need from teachers to maximize their academic performance.

\$143,443 to expand after-school programs at the Community Resource Center in South Whittier. These funds will help South Whittier youth build better lives through after-school tutoring to improve their study habits and computer literacy.

\$141,000 for the Compton Unified School District for its Youth Safety Program. These funds will fund a School Resource Officer to work in schools and the community in Willowbrook to prevent gang activity and violence.

\$133,624 for St. Francis Medical Center's Healthy Children/Bright Futures program. These funds provide underprivileged children and their families with health education and access to healthcare and reduce the incidence of childhood obesity, asthma, and diabetes. The program will operate in Florence, Watts, Willowbrook, South Gate, and Lynwood.

\$94,000 for the Los Angeles Conservation Corps' Youth Development and Crime Reduction program. These funds will provide supervision, training, and temporary employment for at-risk teenagers to improve their quality of life and reduce crime in Southern California. As part of their training, the teenagers will construct parks, playgrounds, and other public works projects for local cities.